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General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (c)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Dharmansjah Djumala (Indonesia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.17/Rev.1

Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/204 of 20 December 2000 and other relevant resolutions relating to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[1]

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Germany for the generous manner in which it hosted and provided facilities for the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties,

Noting with satisfaction that the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention was held at the United Nations Office at Geneva, Switzerland, from 1 to 12 October 2001,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Switzerland for the organization of the Conference of the Parties as well as its special events in Geneva during the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties,

Welcoming the decision taken by the Global Environment Facility Council at its May 2001 session to pursue the designation of land degradation (desertification and deforestation) as a focal area of the Facility, as a means of enhancing its support for the successful implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

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Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

Acknowledging that desertification and drought are problems of a global dimension in that they affect all regions of the world, and that joint actions of the international community are needed to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought, including the integration of strategies for poverty eradication,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary General;[2]

2. *Welcomes* the outcome of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, in particular the adoption of the Declaration on the Commitments to Enhance the Implementation of the Obligations under the Convention;

3. *Also welcomes* the outcome of the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

4. *Notes* the establishment of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention as a subsidiary body of the Conference of the Parties, and invites Parties and other actors to participate in the first session of the Committee, which shall be held from 18 to 29 November 2002, in accordance with Conference of the Parties decision 2/COP.5 of 12 October 2001;

5. *Notes also* that the mandate and functions of the Committee shall be subject to renewal at the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties, in the light of lessons learned during the overall review of the Committee;

6. *Encourages* the Conferences of the Parties to, and the secretariats of, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, and other international instruments related to environment and sustainable development, as well as relevant organizations, especially the United Nations Environment Programme, including, as appropriate, the involvement of the Environmental Management Group, to continue their work for enhancing complementarities among them with full respect for the status of the secretariats of the conventions and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, and to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in the implementation of those conventions at the international, regional and national levels and to report thereon to their respective conferences of the parties;

7. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the Parties to submit, as inputs, the Chairman's summary of the Ministerial and High-Level Interactive Dialogue sessions at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the preparatory process of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which include the challenges of and opportunities in combating desertification, controlling land degradation and mitigating the effects of drought in affected developing countries, including those relating to financial resources and achieving sustainable development and the comprehensive report of the Ad Hoc Working Group for the in-

[2] A/56/175.

depth review and analysis of reports submitted at the third and fourth sessions of the Conference of the Parties;

8. *Welcomes also* the decision of the Global Environment Facility Council on agenda item 7 of its meeting of December 2001 to consider at its next meeting proposed amendments to the instrument to designate land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation, as a focal area of the Facility, as a means of enhancing its support for the successful implementation of the Convention with a view to the Council recommending approval of such amendments by the Assembly of States participating in the Facility at its meeting in October 2002;

9. *Encourages* the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the Global Environment Facility Council and Assembly to work cooperatively and effectively to facilitate the full implementation of the Convention by the Global Environment Facility financing to achieve the objectives of the Convention in the area of land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation;

10. *Notes with appreciation* that some affected developing countries have adopted their national, subregional and regional action programmes, and urges affected developing countries that have not yet done so to accelerate the process of elaboration and adoption of their action programmes with a view to finalizing them as soon as possible;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to contribute to the implementation of those programmes through, inter alia, the conclusion of partnership agreements, through bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes that are available to implement the Convention, including contributions from non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to support the efforts of the developing countries to implement the Convention;

12. *Invites* affected developing countries to place the implementation of their action programmes to combat desertification high among their priorities in their dialogue with their development partners;

13. *Notes with satisfaction* the steps being taken by affected developing country parties to the Convention, with the assistance of international organizations and bilateral development partners, to implement the Convention, and the efforts being made to promote the participation of all actors of civil society in the elaboration and implementation of national action programmes to combat desertification, and in this regard encourages countries to cooperate at the subregional and regional levels, as appropriate;

14. *Welcomes* the strengthened cooperation between the Secretariat of the Convention and the Global Mechanism, and encourages further efforts in this regard for the effective implementation of the Convention;

15. *Invites* all Parties to pay promptly and in full the contributions required for the core budget of the Convention for the biennium 2002-2003 and urges all Parties that have not yet paid their contributions for the year 1999 and/or the biennium 2000-2001 to do so as soon as possible in order to ensure continuity in the cash flow required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat and the Global Mechanism;

16. *Calls upon* Governments, multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, regional economic integration organizations and all other

interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to contribute generously to the General Fund, the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties, and welcomes the financial support already provided by some countries;

17. *Decides* to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2002-2003 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, including the sixth ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties and the meetings of its subsidiary bodies;

18. *Encourages* the United Nations Development Programme to continue implementing decision 2000/23 of 29 September 2000 of its Executive Board pertaining to the cooperation between the secretariat of the Convention and the United Nations Development Programme in order to mainstream activities to combat desertification at the national, subregional and regional levels;

19. *Approves* the continuation of the current institutional linkage, and related administrative arrangements between the United Nations Secretariat and the secretariat of the Convention, for a further five-year period to be reviewed by the General Assembly and the Conference of the Parties not later than 31 December 2006;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa".

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (a)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Dharmansjah Djumala (Indonesia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.11

World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/199 of 20 December 2000 and the decisions adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development at its organizational session,[1]

Encouraging countries and relevant regional and international organizations to support the preparatory processes,

Welcoming national preparations, including at the local level, for World Summit through the establishment of preparatory committees, with the participation of Governments and other stakeholders, the undertaking of national assessments and the initiation of other preparatory activities, and encouraging all countries to intensify that work and calling on the United Nations system to support such activities,

Also welcoming the activities of major groups related to the preparations for the Summit, and encouraging them to carry out further preparatory activities,

Further welcoming the valuable contributions from the preparatory activities undertaken at the subregional and regional levels, as well as from other relevant initiatives undertaken at the international level,

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/56/19), chap. VII.

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Encouraging new initiatives that would contribute to the full implementation of Agenda 21[2] and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[3] and other relevant outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development through strengthening commitments at all levels, including through reinvigorating, at the highest political level, global commitment and partnerships, especially between Governments of the North and the South, on the one hand, and between Governments and major groups on the other,

Expressing its appreciation of the work undertaken by South Africa and Indonesia as the host Governments of the Summit and of the fourth session of the preparatory committee at the ministerial level,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Approves* the provisional rules of procedure of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, as recommended by the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the Summit at its organizational session;[5]

3. *Decides* that the Summit will be open to all States Members of the United Nations and States Members of the specialized agencies, with the participation of observers in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly and its conferences and with the rules of procedure of the Summit;

4. *Decides* that the Summit shall be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, with the participation of heads of State and Government during the period 2 to 4 September;

5. *Reiterates* that the Summit, including its preparatory process, should ensure a balance between economic development, social development and environmental protection since they are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development;

6. *Invites* countries to be represented at the highest political level at the Summit;

7. *Requests* the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit to decide on all remaining issues related to the organization of work of the Summit, including specific details of the series of events to be held in partnership with stakeholders, the short multi-stakeholder event involving the highest level of representation from major groups and Governments and the round-table meetings to be held at the level of heads of State or Government;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to launch a public information campaign to raise global awareness of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, including through reprioritization of the budget of the Department of Public Information and voluntary contributions;

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[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] Ibid., annex I.

[4] A/56/379.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/56/19), chap. VIII, sect. A.

9. *Invites* donors to continue providing extrabudgetary resources, in particular through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund, in support of the preparatory activities for the Summit and the Summit itself, and to support the travel and participation of representatives of developing countries, particularly from least developed countries, and encourages voluntary contributions to support the participation of major groups from developing countries;

10. *Encourages* all countries to complete their national assessment reports, and in that regard calls upon relevant regional and international organizations to further step up their efforts to assist developing countries in the elaboration of those assessment reports;

11. *Encourages*, at the national level, the active involvement of all government agencies responsible for economic development, social development and environmental protection to provide coordinated inputs and contributions to the preparatory process of the Summit;

12. *Encourages* the active involvement of all relevant regional and international agencies and organizations to provide input and contributions to the preparatory process of the Summit;

13. *Encourages* effective contributions from and the active participation of all major groups, as identified in Agenda 21,[2] at all stages of the preparatory process, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as well as its established practices for the participation and engagement of major groups;

14. *Reiterates* the invitation to all intergovernmental processes relevant to the Summit to submit their progress reports/results to the preparatory committee at its second session (28 January-8 February 2002) and their final results to the preparatory committee at the third session (25 March-5 April 2002), so that they can be fully considered in the preparatory process;

15. *Reiterates* the role of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee as the global intergovernmental process for the preparation of the Summit, and in that context recalls the mandate and role of its Bureau, as stipulated by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/199 and the decisions adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee at its organizational session;[1]

16. *Welcomes* the initiatives undertaken by the Secretary-General to raise international awareness on the Summit;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the outcome of the Summit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21", taking into account the outcome of the Summit.